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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 24, 2016

**LAKE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION  
PUBLISHES EVALUATIONS OF CANDIDATES  
FOR APPOINTMENT AS ASSOCIATE JUDGE**

The Lake County Bar Association (LCBA) has just completed two separate evaluation processes for the current slate of candidates for the office of Associate Judge. Judges who preside in Illinois trial courts obtain their positions in two different ways: Circuit Judges are elected by the public, and Associate Judges are appointed by the Circuit Judges. Associate Judges must be reappointed every four years. The Nineteenth Judicial Circuit in Lake County currently has 15 Circuit and 24 Associate judge positions.

The LCBA evaluates judicial candidates in two different ways. The first way is a member survey, in which every active attorney member of the LCBA receives a ballot by e-mail. Regarding the candidates' qualifications for judicial office, members are asked to respond yes or no to questions relating to the candidates' integrity, impartiality, legal abilities, temperament, and court management ability. Members are asked to evaluate only those candidates they know, and a final question asks generally whether the member believes the candidate meets the requirements for judicial office. The complete results of the member survey regarding the Associate Judge applicants are enclosed with this press release (the LCBA only releases results for those candidates rated by at least 25% of the members responding).

The second way the LCBA evaluates candidates is through the Association's Judicial Selection and Retention Committee. The Committee is comprised of 16 members of the Association who are appointed for staggered three-year terms. The Committee meets when judicial positions need to be filled and vets candidates based on an extensive application and interview process.

After interviewing each candidate, the Committee votes anonymously, with each member choosing one of three rankings: "highly recommended", "recommended", or "not recommended". Candidates receive a "highly recommended" rating if at least 60% of the Committee's voting members select that rating. Candidates are "recommended" if at least 60% of the Committee's members select either "recommended" or "highly recommended." Those candidates not receiving a 60% affirmative vote are rated as "not recommended." Evaluations are valid for three years. The results of the Committee's evaluation are enclosed with this release.

The LCBA's bylaws do not provide for the Association to make endorsements regarding judicial candidates or judicial re-appointments. Opinions expressed by individual members of the Lake County Bar Association do not constitute endorsements by the Association or by any of its committees.

The Lake County Bar Association is headquartered in Waukegan, Illinois and has a membership of over 900 lawyer members, as well as 100 non-lawyer associate members. Among other goals, the Association's members seek to foster respect for the administration of law, to increase attorneys' and the public's knowledge of law through continuing legal education, and to uphold the honor and dignity of the legal profession. For more information, visit [www.lakebar.org](http://www.lakebar.org).

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If you would like more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview with David Del Re, Chair of the Judicial Selection & Retention Committee, please call Christopher Boadt at (847) 244-3143 or email [cboadt@lakebar.org](mailto:cboadt@lakebar.org).

**Lake County Bar Association**  
300 Grand Ave STE A  
Waukegan, IL 60085



## Evaluations of Candidates for Associate Judge

October 24, 2016

Last	First	Middle	Rating	Expiration
Ackley	Robert	O.	Recommended	4/6/19
Berman	Jeffrey	Alan	Recommended	3/29/19
Black	Nandia	P.	Recommended	4/1/17
Briscoe	Thomas	A.	Recommended	10/19/19
Bruno	Rhonda	Kind	Recommended	4/1/17
Conway	Michael	Joseph	Recommended	7/29/17
DeRue	Stephen	Matthew	Highly Recommended	4/1/17
Fisz	Ari	Paul	Recommended	4/7/17
Goldberg	Deborah	Lynn	Recommended	3/29/19
Gordon	Diane	Brazen	Recommended	3/30/19
Haxall III	Bolling	Walker	Highly Recommended	3/30/19
Hughes	Jacqueline	A. Alicia	Not Recommended	3/30/19
Jeep	Markham	Matthew	Recommended	3/30/19
Kennedy	Christopher	M.	Highly Recommended	3/29/19
Koehl	Ryan	Patrick	Recommended	3/31/19
Kuzniar	Pamela	Jo-Ann	Recommended	3/29/19
Marcyán	Carlton	Richard	Highly Recommended	7/29/17
Mathews	Reginald	Charles	Recommended	3/31/19
Melius	Jacquelyn	Dolores	Highly Recommended	3/31/19
Naranjo	Daniel		Recommended	10/19/19
Newman	James	Robert Maynard	Recommended	3/31/19
Pascucci	Danielle	Mary	Recommended	3/31/19
Seneczko	Stacey	Lynn	Highly Recommended	4/1/17
Skinner	Joel	R.	Not Recommended	10/19/19



Completed surveys 226  
 25% of responses (required for publication) 56.50  
 Applicants for Associate Judge

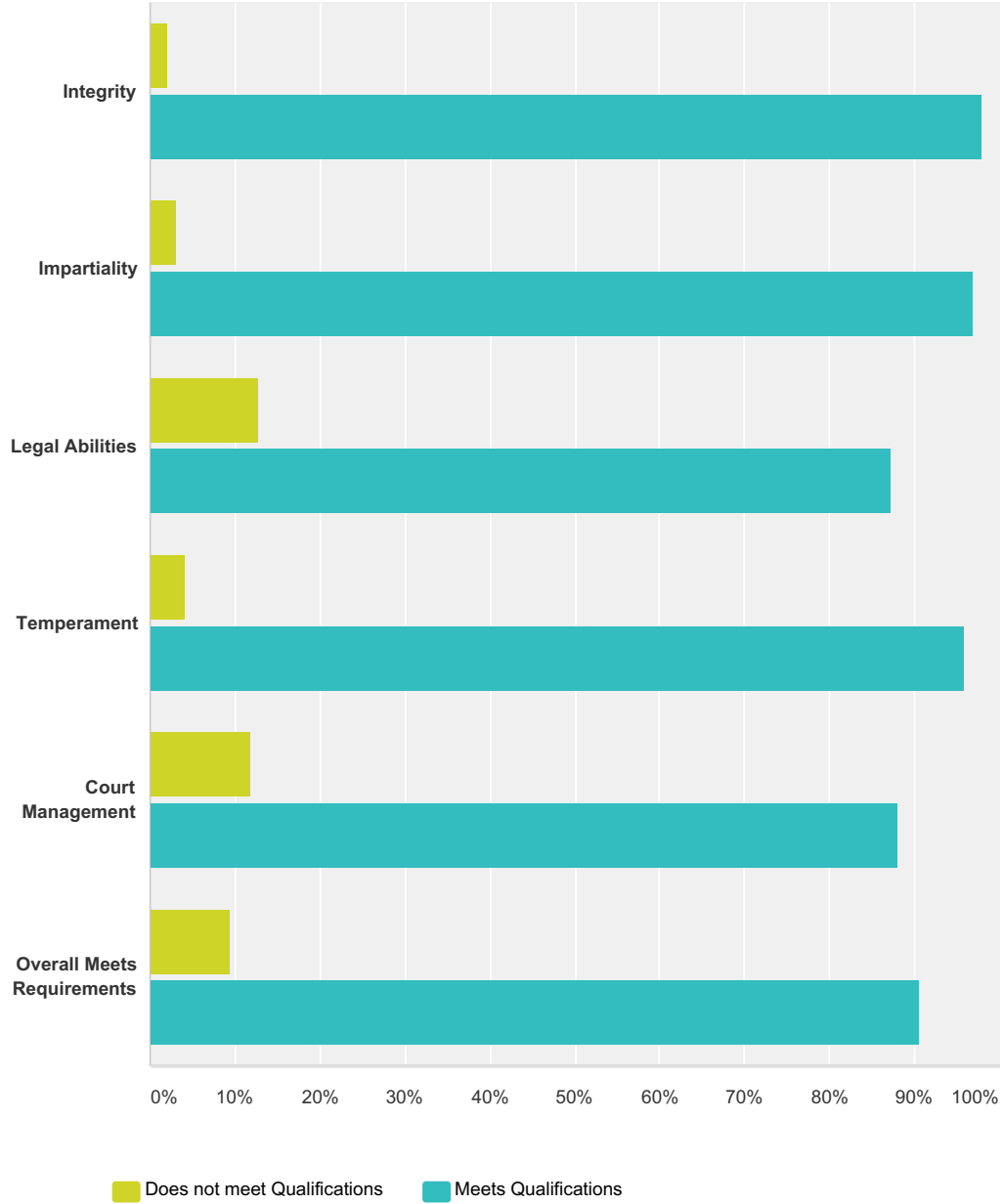
October 2016 Bar Poll

PUBLIC FOR DISTRIBUTION	Voters Knowledge		Integrity		Impartiality		Legal Abilities		Temperament		Court Management		Meets Requirements	
	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
	42%												91%	
<b>ACKLEY, Robert</b> Recommended (4/6/19)	96	130	93	2	92	3	83	12	91	4	82	11	86	9
	56%												58%	
<b>BRISCOE, Thomas</b> Recommended (10/19/19)	126	100	93	29	95	26	91	32	67	54	74	45	72	53
	58%												50%	
<b>BRUNO, Rhonda (Randie)</b> Recommended (4/1/17)	131	95	91	36	75	50	76	51	68	59	80	46	64	65
	46%												60%	
<b>CONWAY, Michael</b> Recommended (7/29/17)	104	122	89	13	84	15	52	49	81	20	65	37	61	41
	46%												58%	
<b>DeRUE, Stephen</b> Highly Recommended (4/1/17)	103	123	79	21	63	37	61	38	70	29	70	29	59	42
	46%												72%	
<b>FISZ, Ari</b> Recommended (4/1/17)	104	122	86	17	65	38	84	18	77	26	86	17	75	29
	60%												76%	
<b>GOLDBERG, Deborah</b> Recommended (3/29/19)	136	90	125	9	106	28	106	28	103	32	108	21	103	32
	32%												82%	
<b>HAXALL, Bolling (Bodie)</b> Highly Recommended (3/30/19)	73	153	67	6	61	11	66	7	64	9	61	9	59	13
	36%												74%	
<b>JEEP, Markham</b> Recommended (3/30/19)	81	145	71	6	66	11	64	14	58	20	61	16	60	21



**Q17 Please rate Robert O. Ackley (candidate for appointment as Associate Judge) in the following areas:**

Answered: 96 Skipped: 130



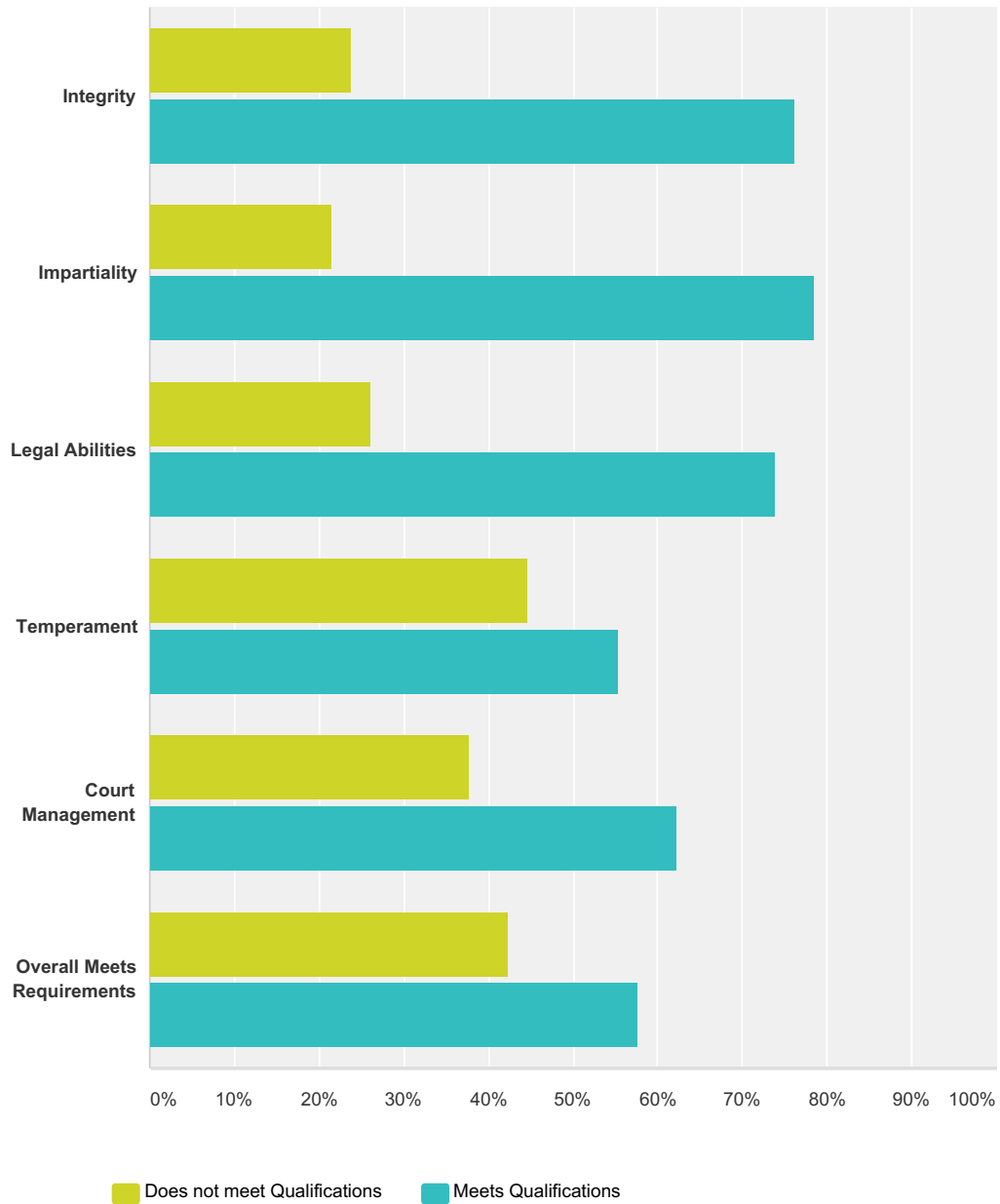
	Does not meet Qualifications	Meets Qualifications	Total
Integrity	2.11% 2	97.89% 93	95
Impartiality	3.16% 3	96.84% 92	95
Legal Abilities	12.63% 12	87.37% 83	95

## Bar Poll October 2016

Temperament	<b>4.21%</b> 4	<b>95.79%</b> 91	95
Court Management	<b>11.83%</b> 11	<b>88.17%</b> 82	93
Overall Meets Requirements	<b>9.47%</b> 9	<b>90.53%</b> 86	95

**Q25 Please rate Thomas A. Briscoe  
(candidate for appointment as Associate  
Judge) in the following areas:**

Answered: 126 Skipped: 100



	Does not meet Qualifications	Meets Qualifications	Total
Integrity	23.77% 29	76.23% 93	122
Impartiality	21.49% 26	78.51% 95	121
Legal Abilities	26.02% 32	73.98% 91	123

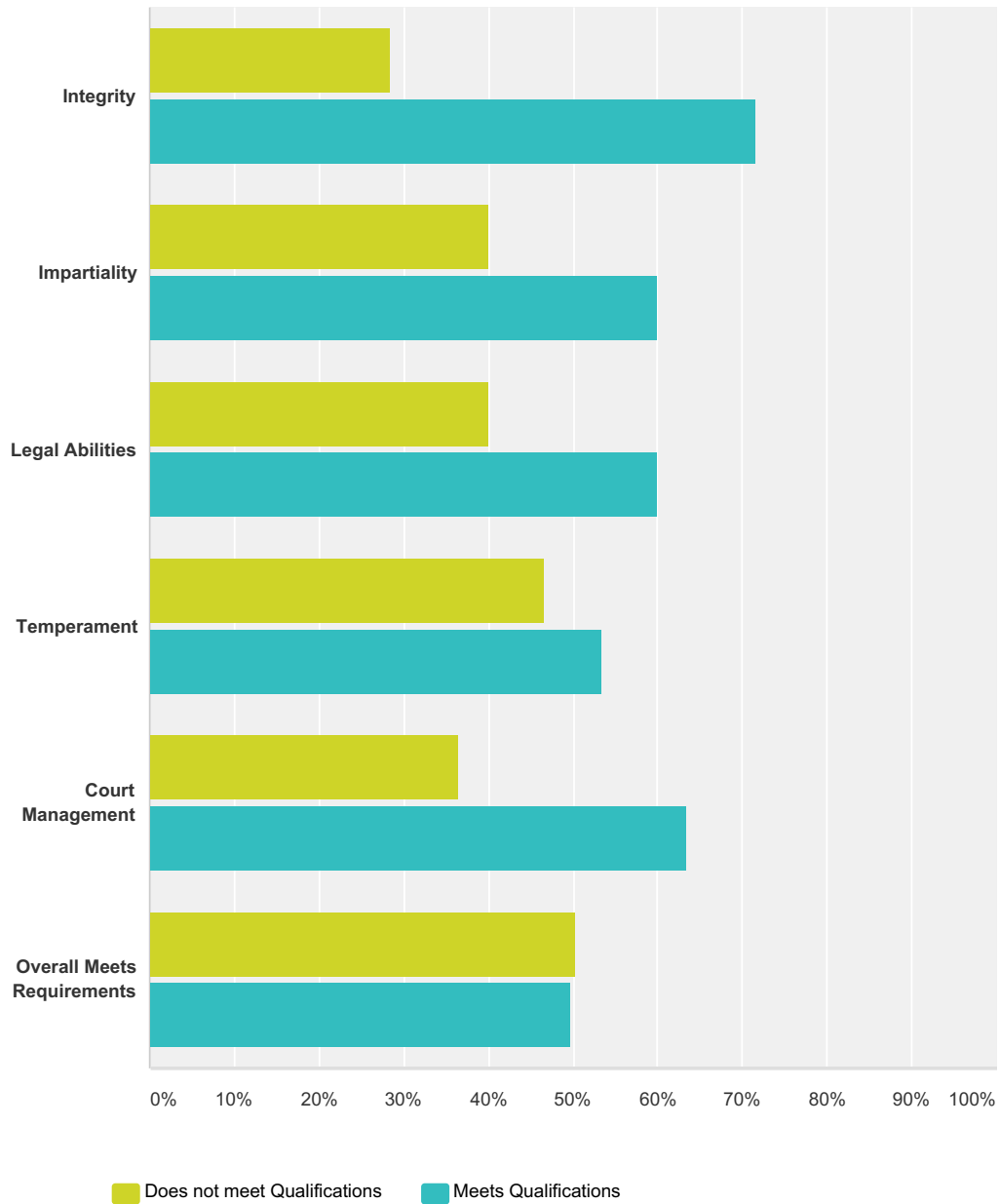


## Bar Poll October 2016

Temperament	<b>44.63%</b> 54	<b>55.37%</b> 67	121
Court Management	<b>37.82%</b> 45	<b>62.18%</b> 74	119
Overall Meets Requirements	<b>42.40%</b> 53	<b>57.60%</b> 72	125

**Q27 Please rate Rhonda (Randie) K. Bruno  
(candidate for appointment as Associate  
Judge) in the following areas:**

Answered: 131 Skipped: 95



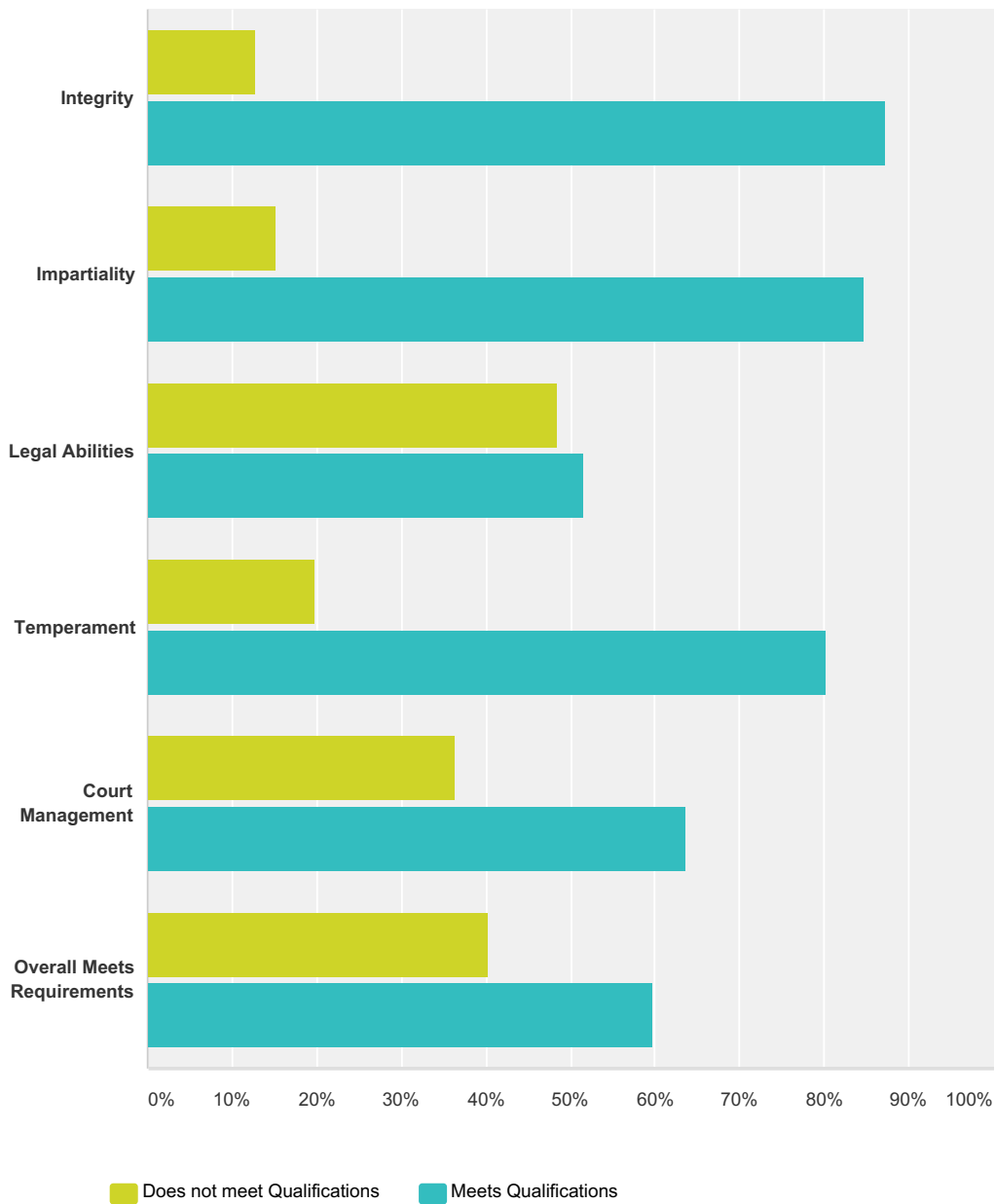
	Does not meet Qualifications	Meets Qualifications	Total
Integrity	28.35% 36	71.65% 91	127
Impartiality	40.00% 50	60.00% 75	125
Legal Abilities	40.16% 51	59.84% 76	127

## Bar Poll October 2016

Temperament	<b>46.46%</b> 59	<b>53.54%</b> 68	127
Court Management	<b>36.51%</b> 46	<b>63.49%</b> 80	126
Overall Meets Requirements	<b>50.39%</b> 65	<b>49.61%</b> 64	129

**Q29 Please rate Michael J. Conway  
(candidate for appointment as Associate  
Judge) in the following areas:**

Answered: 104 Skipped: 122



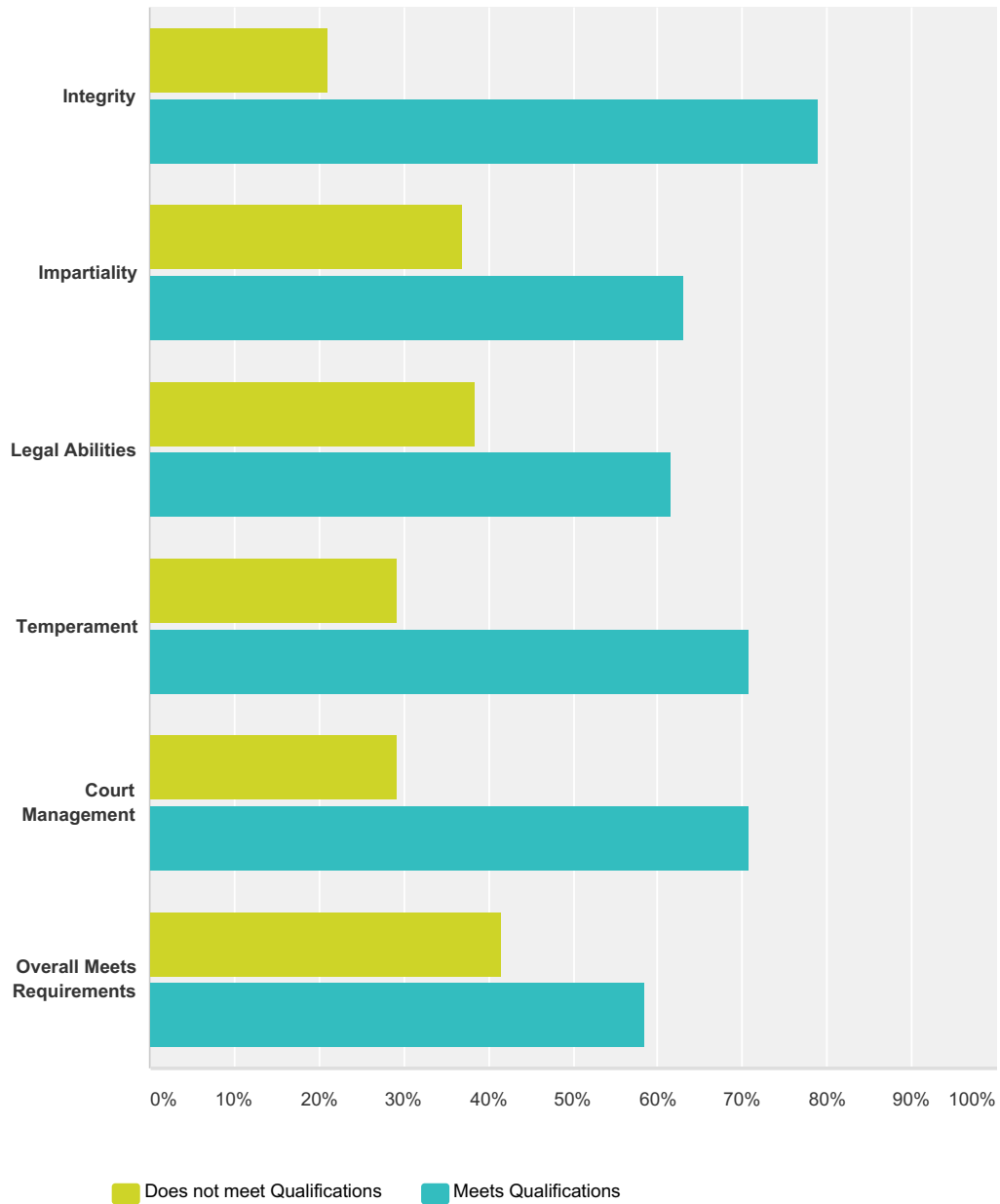
	Does not meet Qualifications	Meets Qualifications	Total
Integrity	12.75% 13	87.25% 89	102
Impartiality	15.15% 15	84.85% 84	99
Legal Abilities	48.51% 49	51.49% 52	101

## Bar Poll October 2016

Temperament	<b>19.80%</b> 20	<b>80.20%</b> 81	101
Court Management	<b>36.27%</b> 37	<b>63.73%</b> 65	102
Overall Meets Requirements	<b>40.20%</b> 41	<b>59.80%</b> 61	102

**Q31 Please rate Stephen M. DeRue  
(candidate for appointment as Associate  
Judge) in the following areas:**

Answered: 103 Skipped: 123



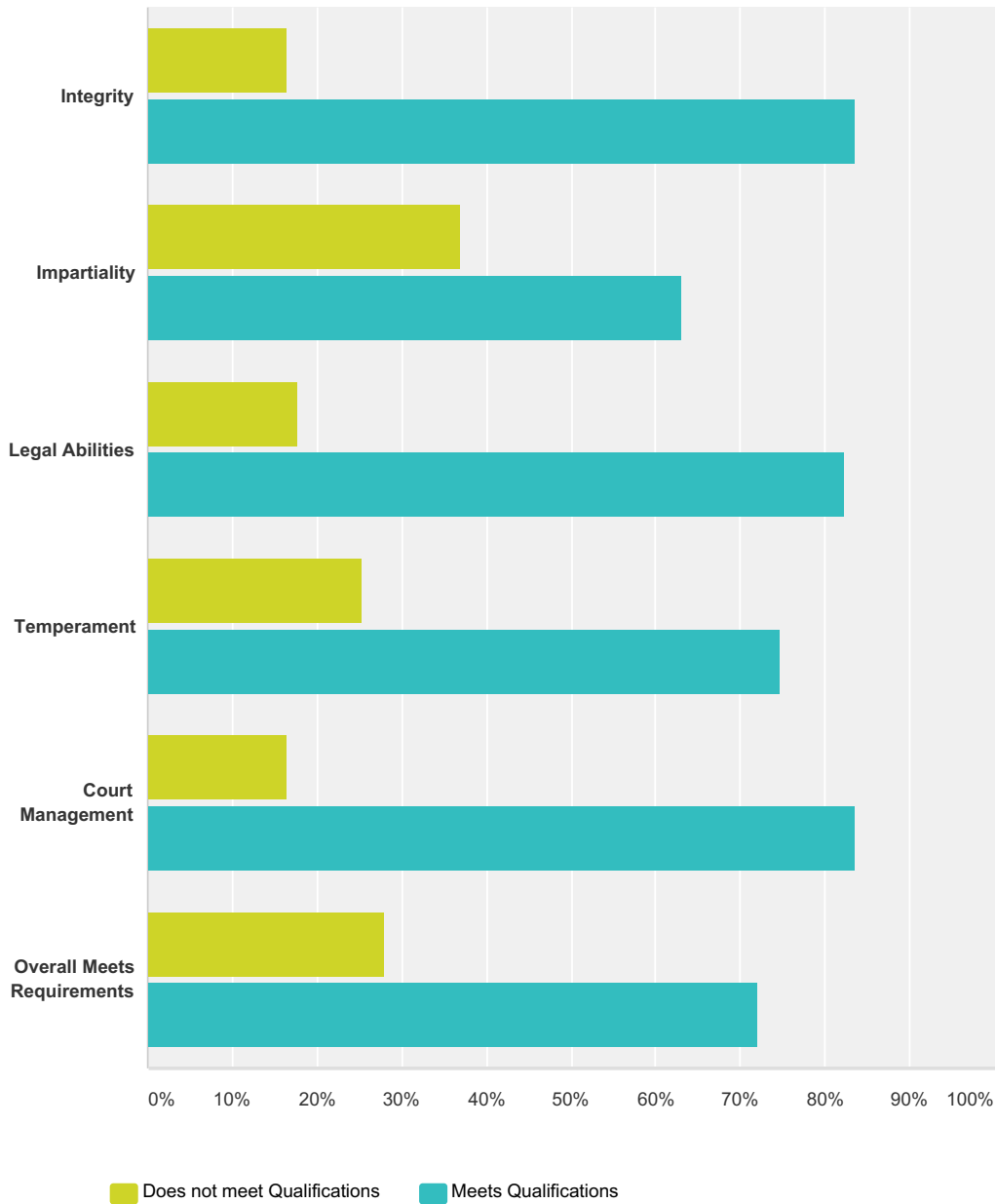
	Does not meet Qualifications	Meets Qualifications	Total
Integrity	21.00% 21	79.00% 79	100
Impartiality	37.00% 37	63.00% 63	100
Legal Abilities	38.38% 38	61.62% 61	99

## Bar Poll October 2016

Temperament	<b>29.29%</b> 29	<b>70.71%</b> 70	99
Court Management	<b>29.29%</b> 29	<b>70.71%</b> 70	99
Overall Meets Requirements	<b>41.58%</b> 42	<b>58.42%</b> 59	101

**Q33 Please rate Ari P. Fisz (candidate for appointment as Associate Judge) in the following areas:**

Answered: 104 Skipped: 122



	Does not meet Qualifications	Meets Qualifications	Total
Integrity	16.50% 17	83.50% 86	103
Impartiality	36.89% 38	63.11% 65	103
Legal Abilities	17.65% 18	82.35% 84	102

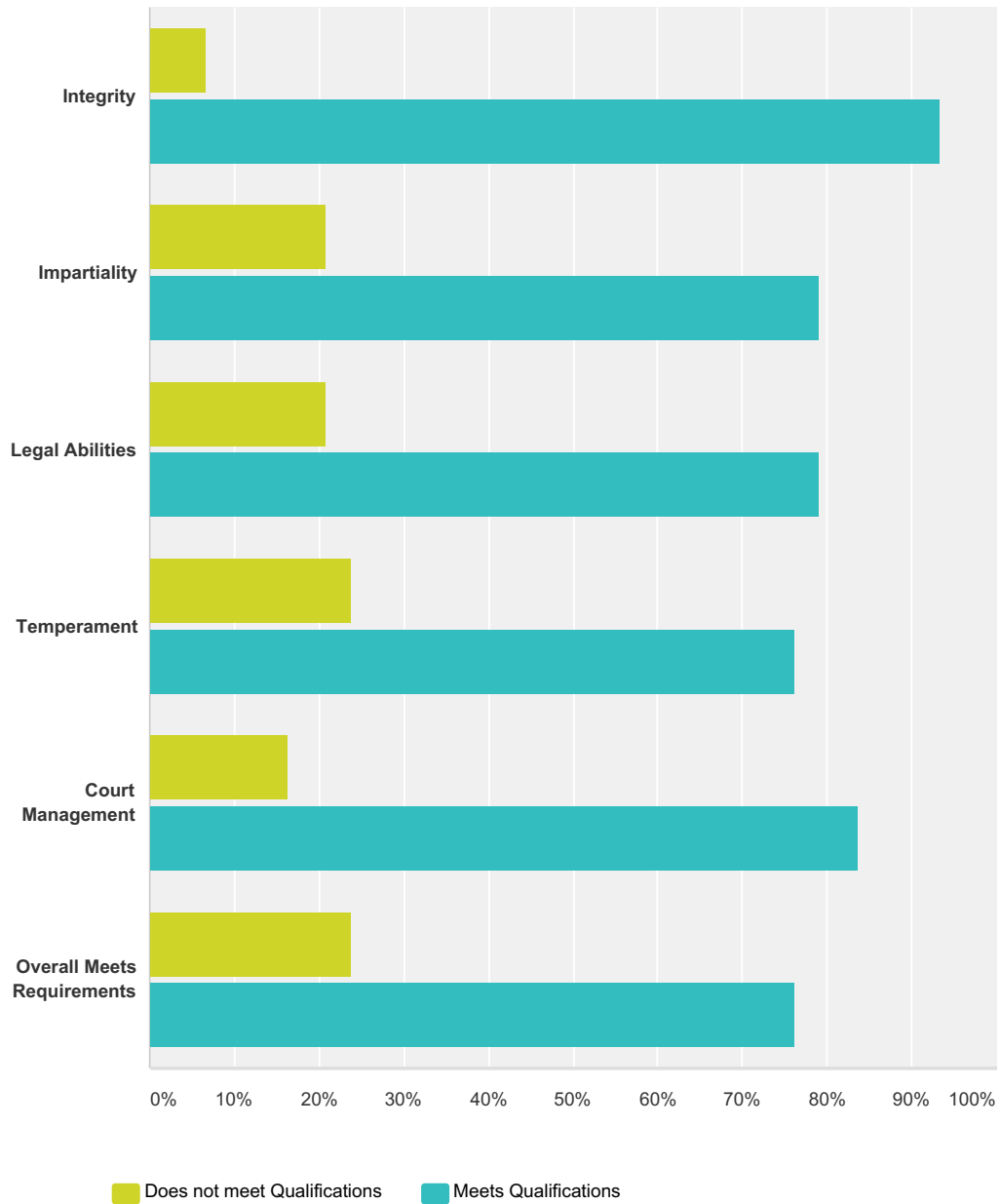


## Bar Poll October 2016

Temperament	<b>25.24%</b> 26	<b>74.76%</b> 77	103
Court Management	<b>16.50%</b> 17	<b>83.50%</b> 86	103
Overall Meets Requirements	<b>27.88%</b> 29	<b>72.12%</b> 75	104

**Q37 Please rate Deborah L. Goldberg  
(candidate for appointment as Associate  
Judge) in the following areas:**

Answered: 136 Skipped: 90



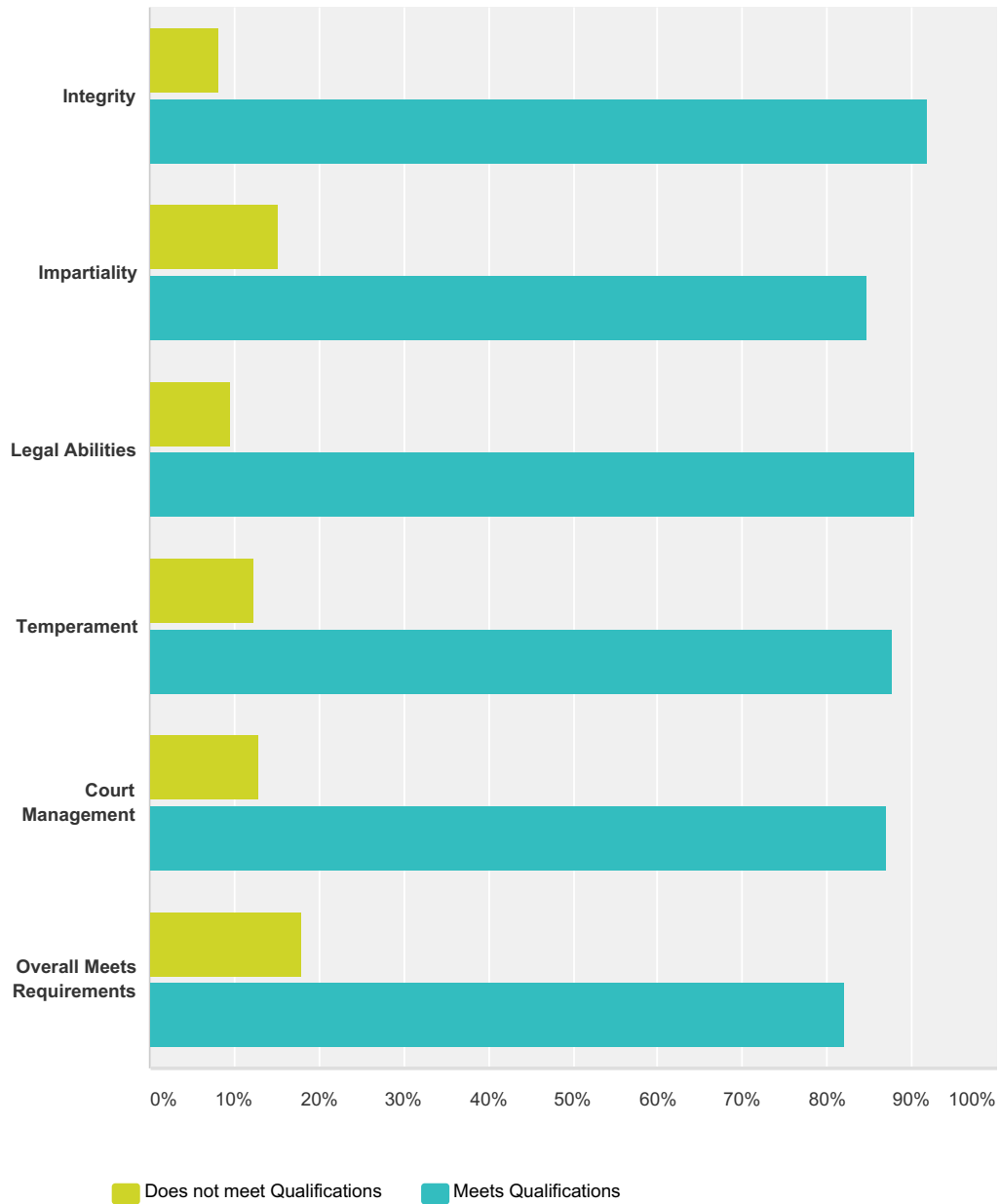
	Does not meet Qualifications	Meets Qualifications	Total
Integrity	6.72% 9	93.28% 125	134
Impartiality	20.90% 28	79.10% 106	134
Legal Abilities	20.90% 28	79.10% 106	134

## Bar Poll October 2016

Temperament	<b>23.70%</b> 32	<b>76.30%</b> 103	135
Court Management	<b>16.28%</b> 21	<b>83.72%</b> 108	129
Overall Meets Requirements	<b>23.70%</b> 32	<b>76.30%</b> 103	135

**Q41 Please rate Bolling (Bodie) W. Haxall, III  
(candidate for appointment as Associate  
Judge) in the following areas:**

Answered: 73 Skipped: 153



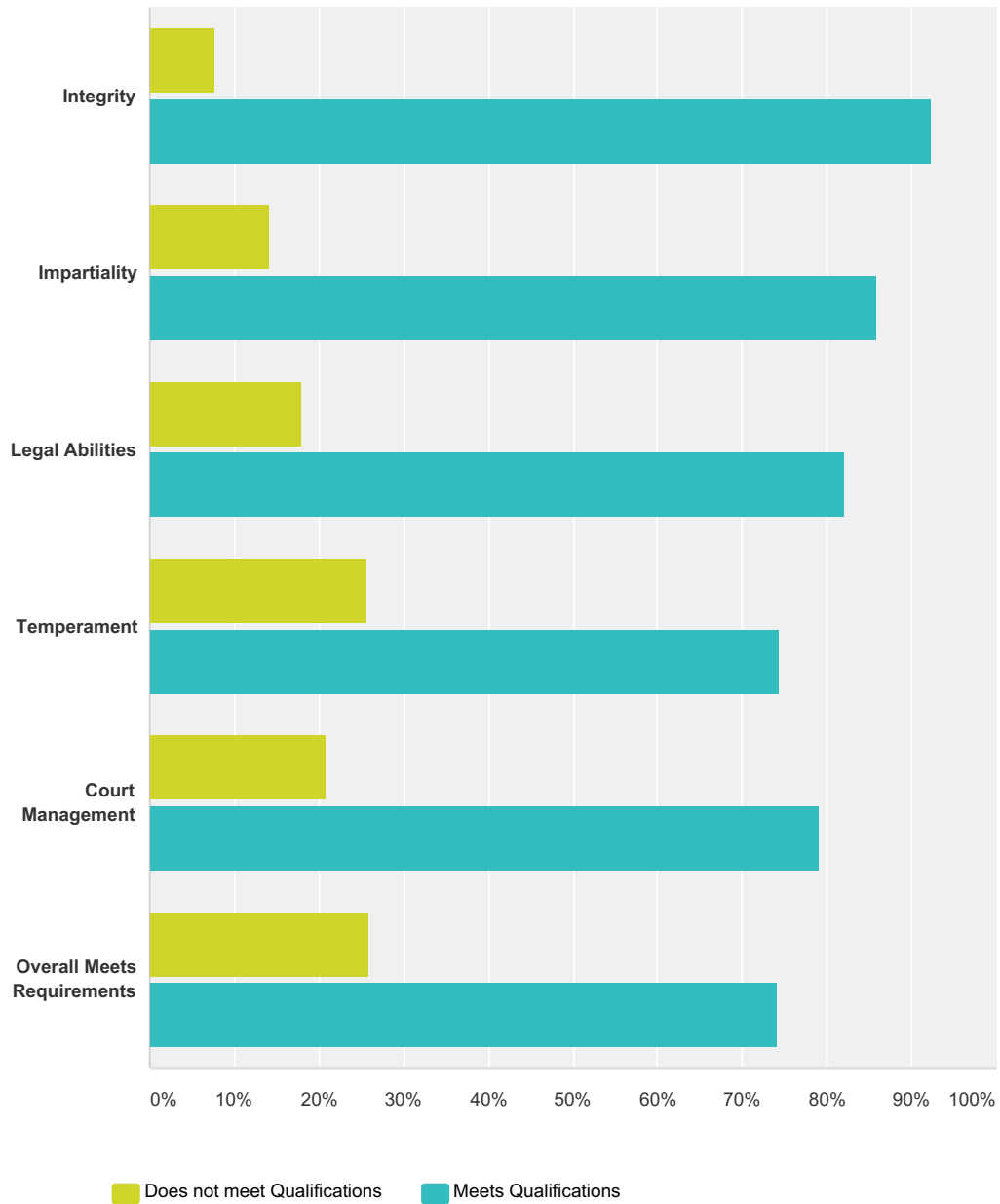
	Does not meet Qualifications	Meets Qualifications	Total
Integrity	8.22% 6	91.78% 67	73
Impartiality	15.28% 11	84.72% 61	72
Legal Abilities	9.59% 7	90.41% 66	73

## Bar Poll October 2016

Temperament	<b>12.33%</b> 9	<b>87.67%</b> 64	73
Court Management	<b>12.86%</b> 9	<b>87.14%</b> 61	70
Overall Meets Requirements	<b>18.06%</b> 13	<b>81.94%</b> 59	72

**Q45 Please rate Markham M. Jeep  
(candidate for appointment as Associate  
Judge) in the following areas:**

Answered: 81 Skipped: 145



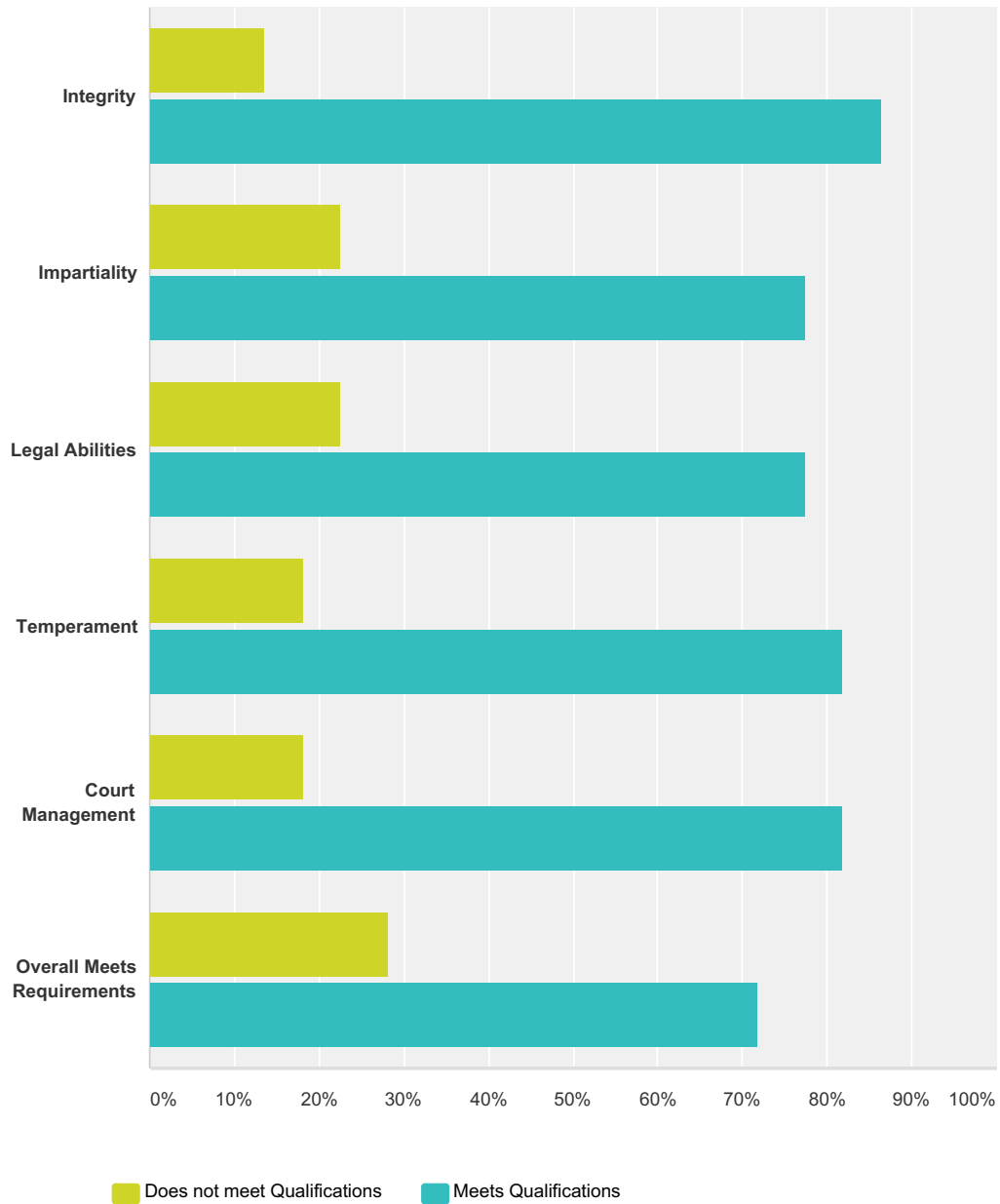
	Does not meet Qualifications	Meets Qualifications	Total
Integrity	7.79% 6	92.21% 71	77
Impartiality	14.29% 11	85.71% 66	77
Legal Abilities	17.95% 14	82.05% 64	78

## Bar Poll October 2016

Temperament	<b>25.64%</b> 20	<b>74.36%</b> 58	78
Court Management	<b>20.78%</b> 16	<b>79.22%</b> 61	77
Overall Meets Requirements	<b>25.93%</b> 21	<b>74.07%</b> 60	81

**Q47 Please rate Christopher M. Kennedy (candidate for appointment as Associate Judge) in the following areas:**

Answered: 90 Skipped: 136



	Does not meet Qualifications	Meets Qualifications	Total
Integrity	13.48% 12	86.52% 77	89
Impartiality	22.47% 20	77.53% 69	89
Legal Abilities	22.47% 20	77.53% 69	89

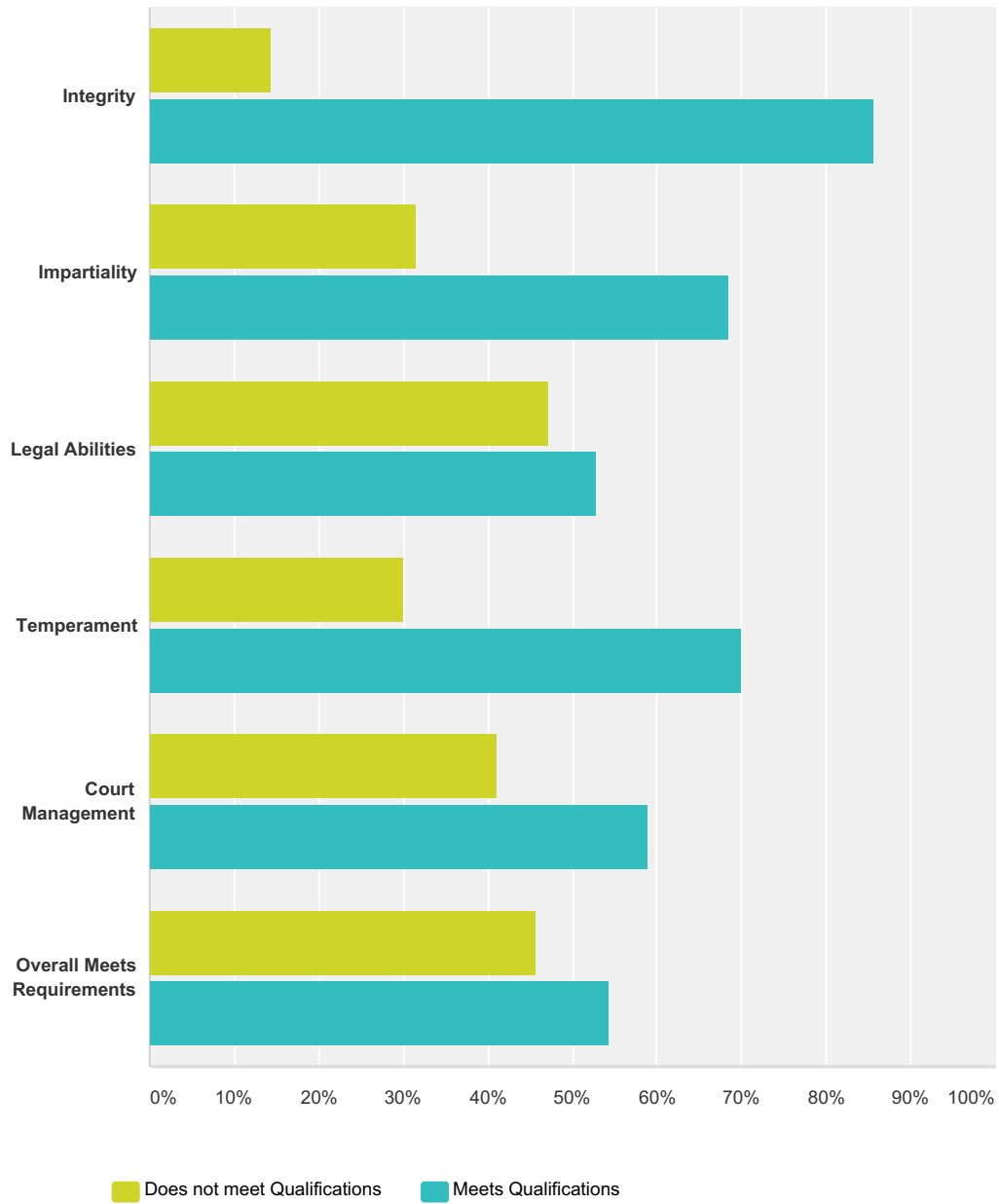


## Bar Poll October 2016

Temperament	<b>18.18%</b> 16	<b>81.82%</b> 72	88
Court Management	<b>18.18%</b> 16	<b>81.82%</b> 72	88
Overall Meets Requirements	<b>28.09%</b> 25	<b>71.91%</b> 64	89

**Q49 Please rate Ryan P. Koehl (candidate for appointment as Associate Judge) in the following areas:**

Answered: 71 Skipped: 155



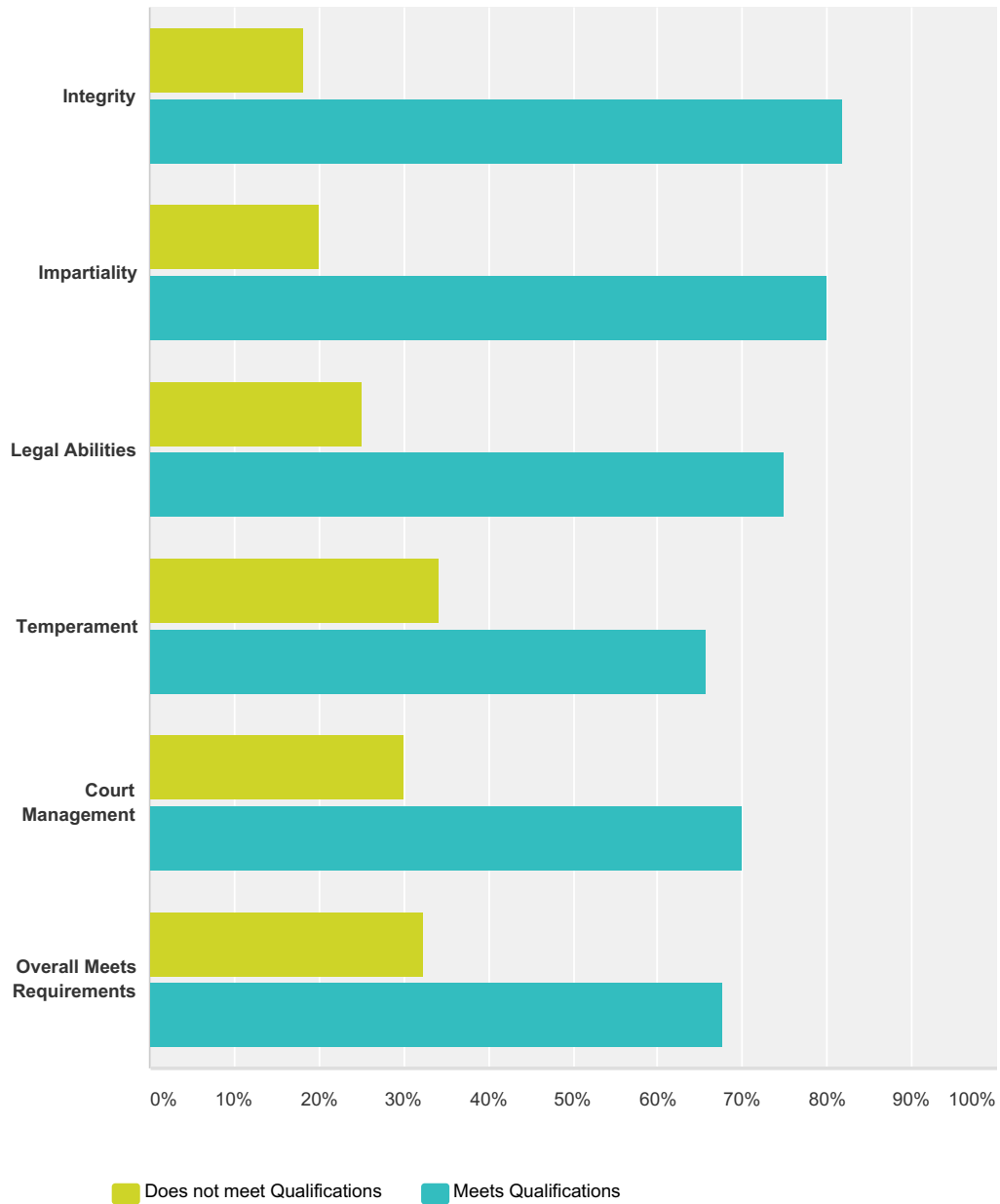
	Does not meet Qualifications	Meets Qualifications	Total
Integrity	14.49% 10	85.51% 59	69
Impartiality	31.43% 22	68.57% 48	70
Legal Abilities	47.14% 33	52.86% 37	70

## Bar Poll October 2016

Temperament	<b>30.00%</b> 21	<b>70.00%</b> 49	70
Court Management	<b>41.18%</b> 28	<b>58.82%</b> 40	68
Overall Meets Requirements	<b>45.71%</b> 32	<b>54.29%</b> 38	70

**Q51 Please rate Pamela J. Kuzniar  
(candidate for appointment as Associate  
Judge) in the following areas:**

Answered: 70 Skipped: 156



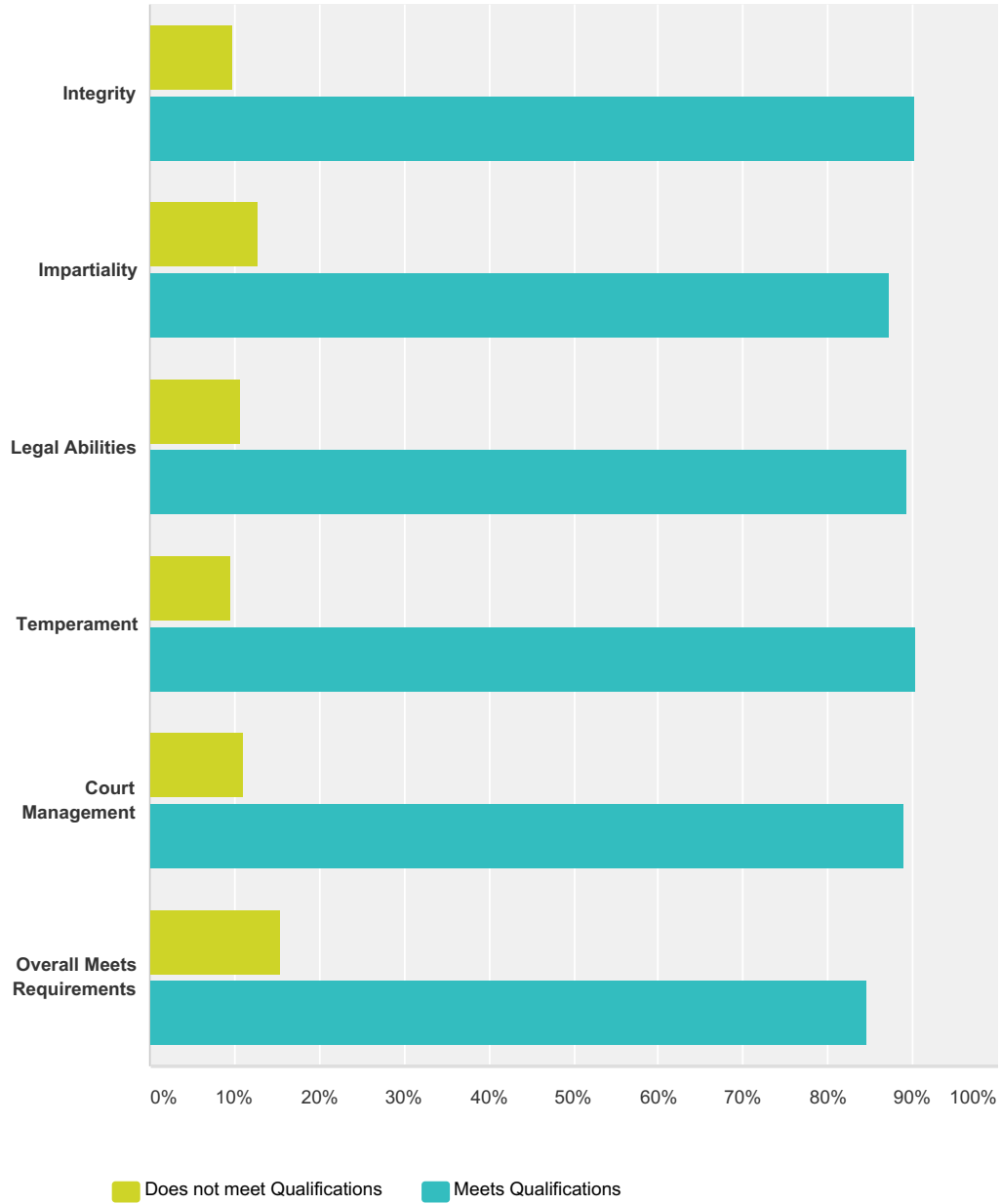
	Does not meet Qualifications	Meets Qualifications	Total
Integrity	18.18% 12	81.82% 54	66
Impartiality	20.00% 13	80.00% 52	65
Legal Abilities	25.00% 17	75.00% 51	68

## Bar Poll October 2016

Temperament	<b>34.33%</b> 23	<b>65.67%</b> 44	67
Court Management	<b>30.16%</b> 19	<b>69.84%</b> 44	63
Overall Meets Requirements	<b>32.35%</b> 22	<b>67.65%</b> 46	68

**Q53 Please rate Carlton R. Marcyan  
(candidate for appointment as Associate  
Judge) in the following areas:**

Answered: 106 Skipped: 120



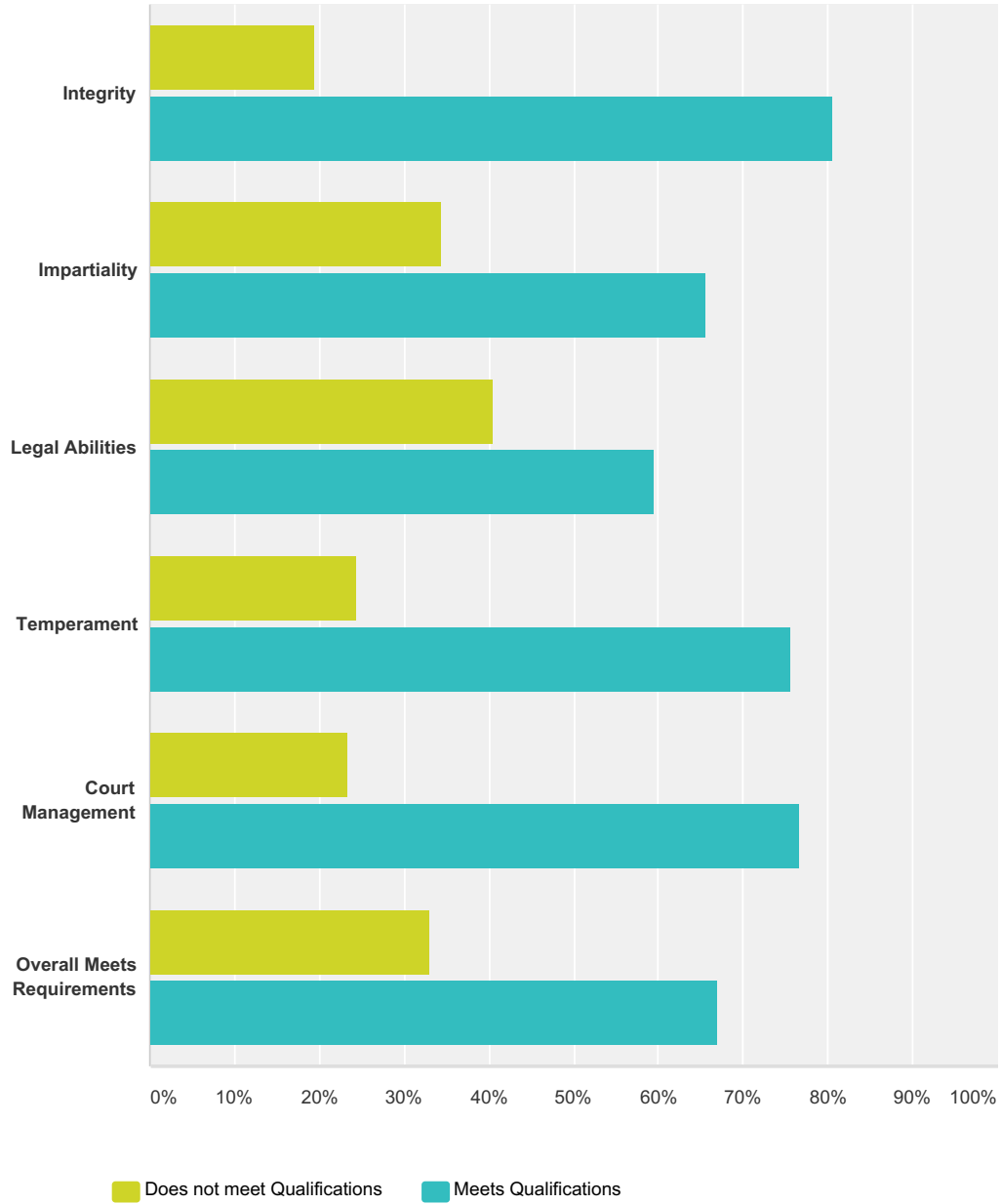
	Does not meet Qualifications	Meets Qualifications	Total
Integrity	9.71% 10	90.29% 93	103
Impartiality	12.75% 13	87.25% 89	102
Legal Abilities	10.68% 11	89.32% 92	103

## Bar Poll October 2016

Temperament	<b>9.62%</b> 10	<b>90.38%</b> 94	104
Court Management	<b>11.11%</b> 11	<b>88.89%</b> 88	99
Overall Meets Requirements	<b>15.38%</b> 16	<b>84.62%</b> 88	104

**Q55 Please rate Reginald C. Mathews  
(candidate for appointment as Associate  
Judge) in the following areas:**

Answered: 101 Skipped: 125



	Does not meet Qualifications	Meets Qualifications	Total
Integrity	19.39% 19	80.61% 79	98
Impartiality	34.34% 34	65.66% 65	99
Legal Abilities	40.40% 40	59.60% 59	99

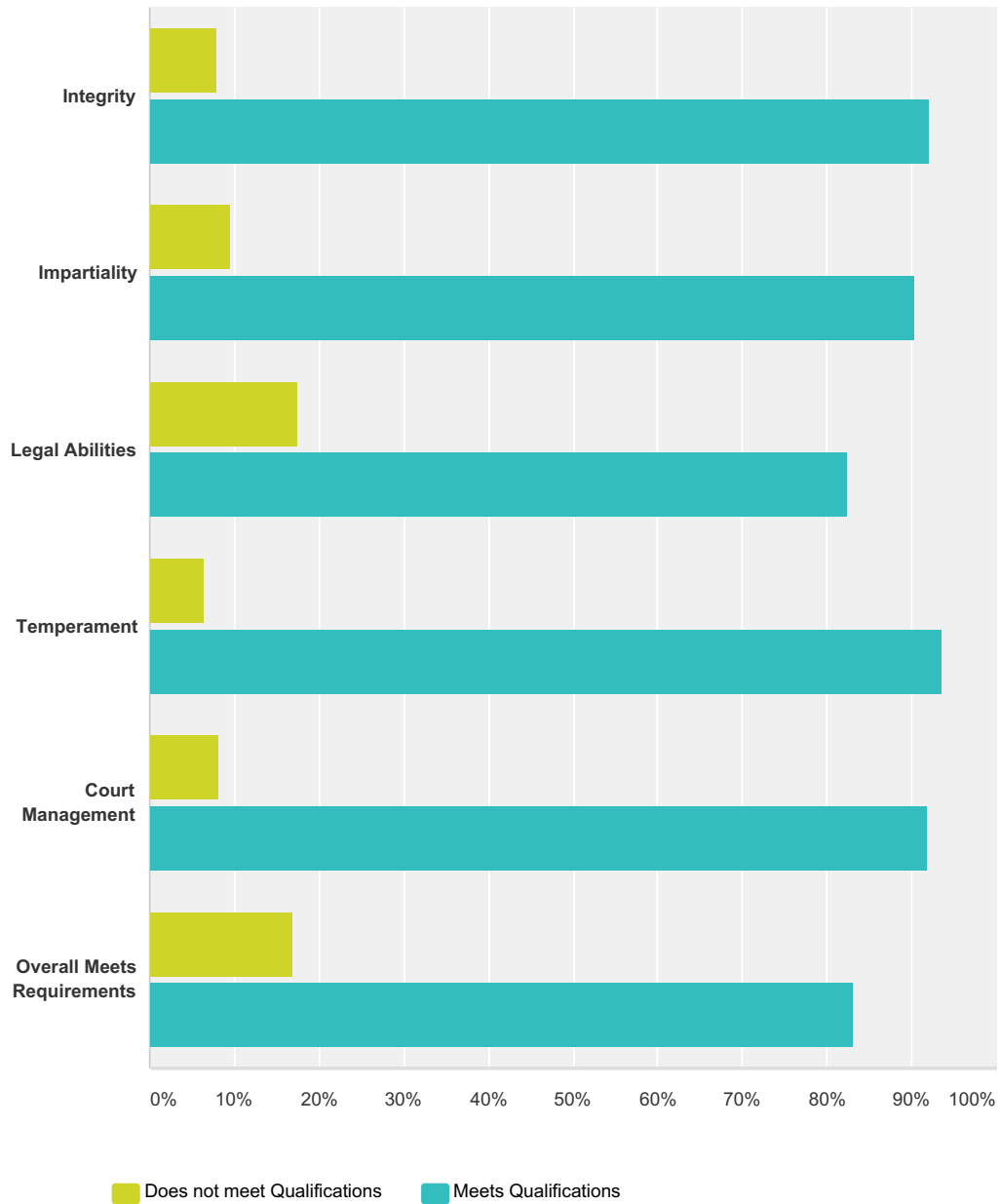


## Bar Poll October 2016

Temperament	<b>24.49%</b> 24	<b>75.51%</b> 74	98
Court Management	<b>23.47%</b> 23	<b>76.53%</b> 75	98
Overall Meets Requirements	<b>33.00%</b> 33	<b>67.00%</b> 67	100

**Q57 Please rate Jacquelyn D. Melius  
(candidate for appointment as Associate  
Judge) in the following areas:**

Answered: 65 Skipped: 161



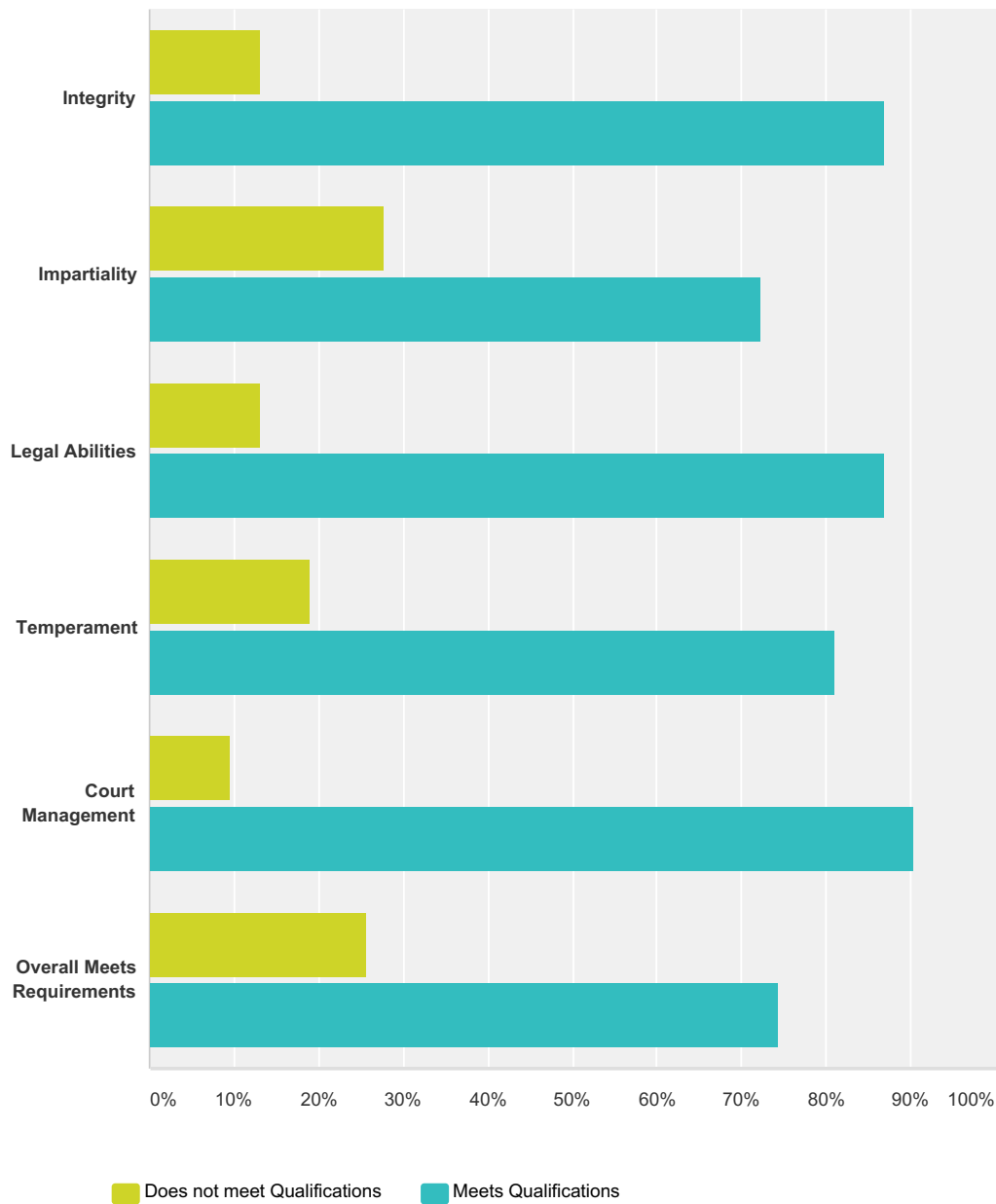
	Does not meet Qualifications	Meets Qualifications	Total
Integrity	7.94% 5	92.06% 58	63
Impartiality	9.68% 6	90.32% 56	62
Legal Abilities	17.46% 11	82.54% 52	63

## Bar Poll October 2016

Temperament	<b>6.45%</b> 4	<b>93.55%</b> 58	62
Court Management	<b>8.06%</b> 5	<b>91.94%</b> 57	62
Overall Meets Requirements	<b>16.92%</b> 11	<b>83.08%</b> 54	65

**Q61 Please rate James (Jim) R. M. Newman  
(candidate for appointment as Associate  
Judge) in the following areas:**

Answered: 84 Skipped: 142



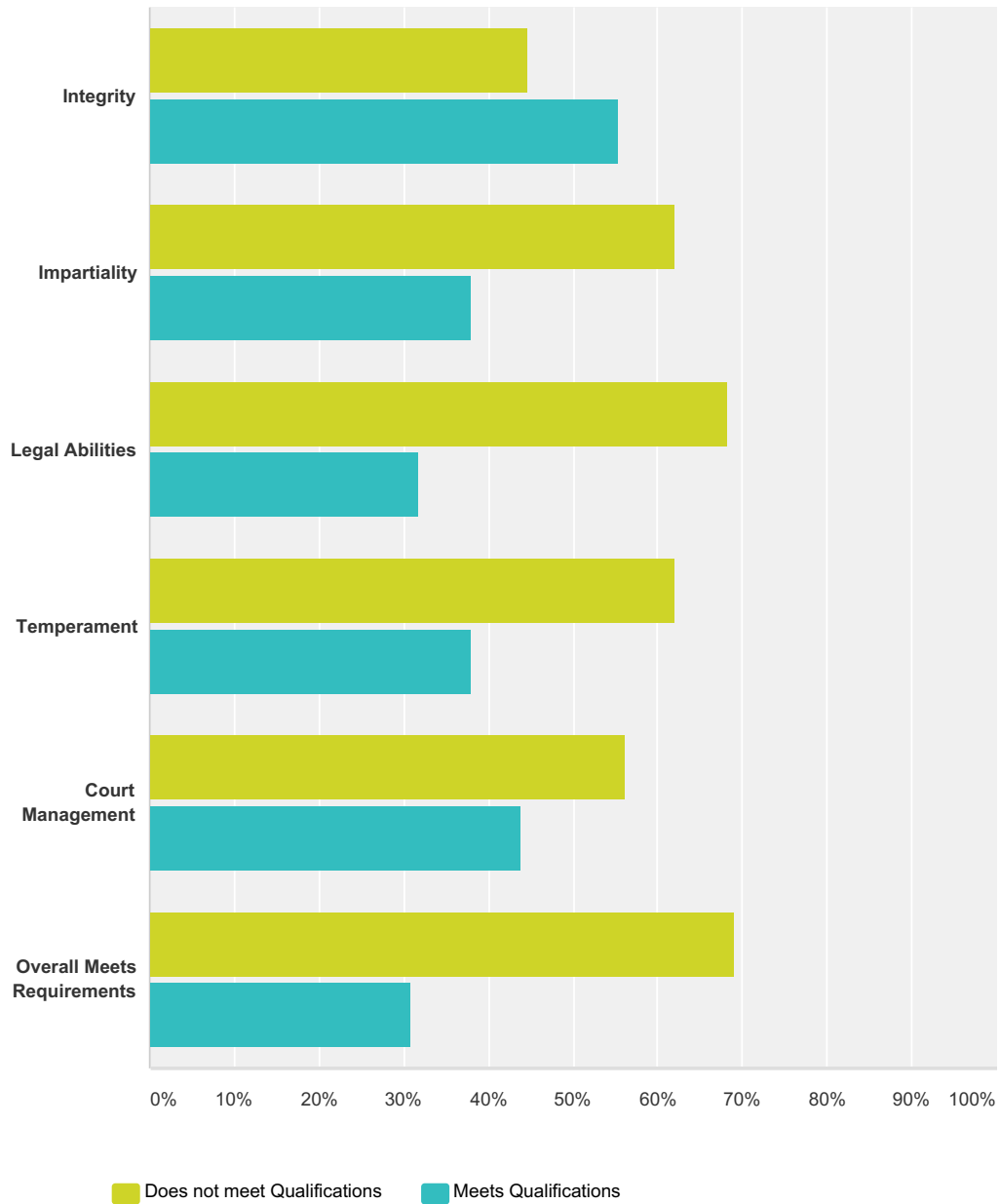
	Does not meet Qualifications	Meets Qualifications	Total
Integrity	13.25% 11	86.75% 72	83
Impartiality	27.71% 23	72.29% 60	83
Legal Abilities	13.10% 11	86.90% 73	84

## Bar Poll October 2016

Temperament	<b>19.05%</b> 16	<b>80.95%</b> 68	84
Court Management	<b>9.52%</b> 8	<b>90.48%</b> 76	84
Overall Meets Requirements	<b>25.61%</b> 21	<b>74.39%</b> 61	82

**Q63 Please rate Danielle M. Pascucci  
(candidate for appointment as Associate  
Judge) in the following areas:**

Answered: 86 Skipped: 140



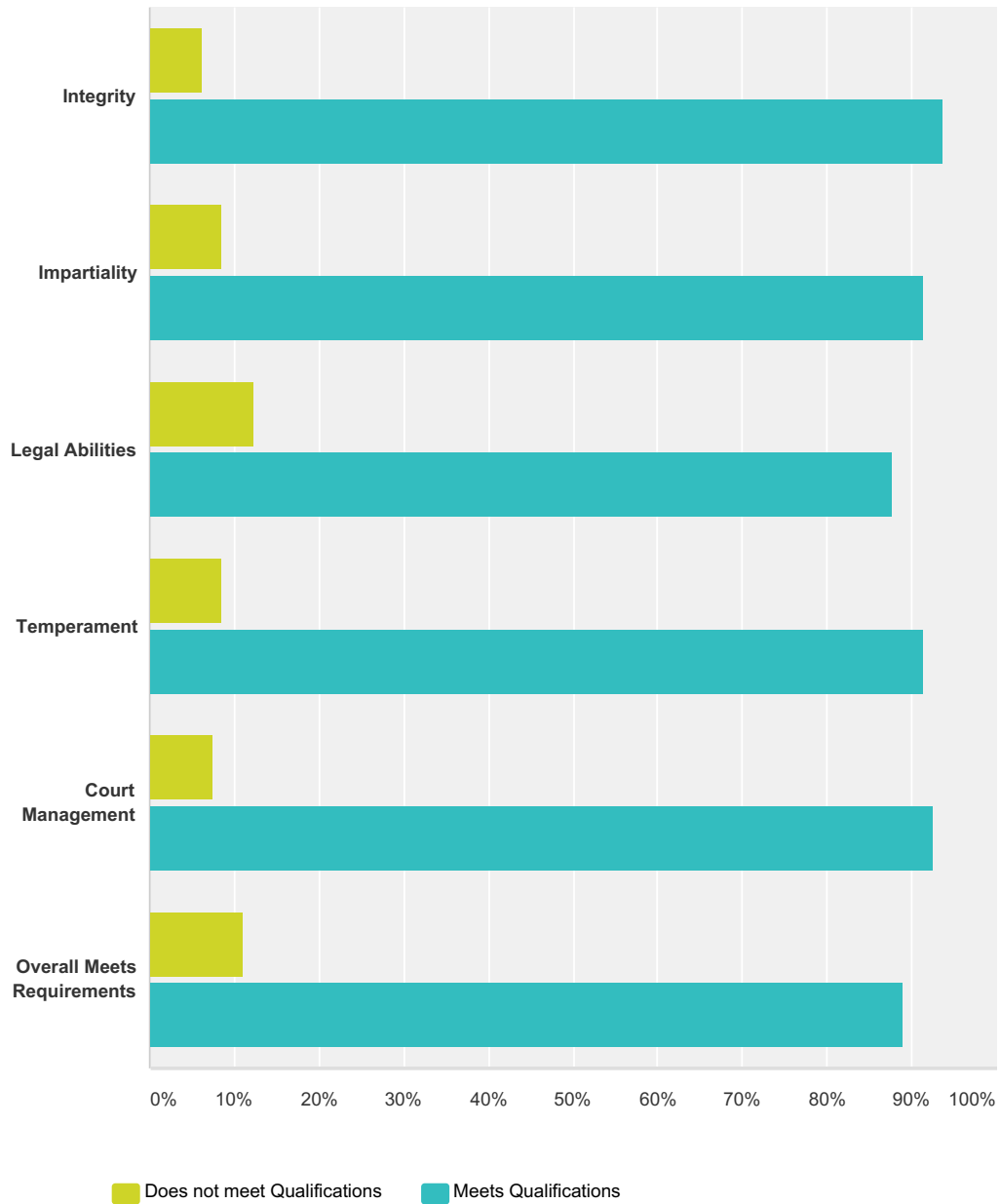
	Does not meet Qualifications	Meets Qualifications	Total
Integrity	44.58% 37	55.42% 46	83
Impartiality	61.90% 52	38.10% 32	84
Legal Abilities	68.24% 58	31.76% 27	85

## Bar Poll October 2016

Temperament	<b>61.90%</b> 52	<b>38.10%</b> 32	84
Court Management	<b>56.10%</b> 46	<b>43.90%</b> 36	82
Overall Meets Requirements	<b>69.05%</b> 58	<b>30.95%</b> 26	84

**Q65 Please rate Stacey L. Seneczko  
(candidate for appointment as Associate  
Judge) in the following areas:**

Answered: 83 Skipped: 143



	Does not meet Qualifications	Meets Qualifications	Total
Integrity	6.17% 5	93.83% 76	81
Impartiality	8.64% 7	91.36% 74	81
Legal Abilities	12.35% 10	87.65% 71	81



## Bar Poll October 2016

Temperament	<b>8.64%</b> 7	<b>91.36%</b> 74	81
Court Management	<b>7.50%</b> 6	<b>92.50%</b> 74	80
Overall Meets Requirements	<b>10.98%</b> 9	<b>89.02%</b> 73	82